

5673.0.55.003 - Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia - Data Cubes, 2005-06

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INTRODUCTION

Australians derive their income from a variety of sources including their own unincorporated business, investments, superannuation and government payments, but the most common source is from Wages and salaries.

This article presents selected data on estimates of personal income for people whose main (or principal) source of income was Wages and salaries. The estimates have been compiled using aggregated individual income tax data from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). The ABS wishes to acknowledge the invaluable support of the ATO in compiling these statistics.

Small area statistics on personal income are also available from the Census of Population and Housing. The benefits of using the ATO data are that they are available annually, rather than once every five years, and provide estimates of different sources of income, in addition to total income.

This article illustrates ways in which these data can be used to explore regional variation in income:

- Firstly, the article provides an overview of the growth in average Wage and salary income from 2001-02 to 2005-06, with some discussion of the variation in average annual growth rates between states and territories.
- Secondly, the article highlights the SLAs with the highest average Wage and salary incomes in 2005-06, and describes some of the characteristics of Wage and salary earners in those regions.

The analysis presented here represents only some of the data available in the spreadsheets accompanying this article. Other data available include age and sex characteristics of Wage and salary earners, more detailed occupation data and data for other geographic levels including local government areas.

AVERAGE WAGE AND SALARY INCOME GROWTH, 2001-02 TO 2005-06

From 2001-02 to 2005-06, the Australian economy grew at an average annual rate of 7.1% (annual Gross Domestic Product in current prices, Australian System of National Accounts, 2007-08 (cat. no. 5204.0)). In the same period, the average annual growth rate of Australian Wages and salaries was 4.2%.

Table 1 shows that while the Australian Capital Territory had the highest average income from Wages and salaries in each of the five years, Western Australia had the highest average annual growth rate at 5.3%.

Table 1. Growth in Average Annual Wages and Salaries, by State/Territory

State/Territory	Average Annual Wage and Salary Income (\$)					Average annual growth rate (%)
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	
New South Wales	38,193	39,607	41,407	43,245	44,896	4.1
Victoria	35,894	37,198	38,754	40,393	41,782	3.9
Queensland	32,993	34,292	35,917	37,569	39,629	4.7
South Australia	32,933	34,165	35,685	37,166	38,422	3.9
Western Australia	34,788	36,386	38,284	40,499	42,804	5.3
Tasmania	31,343	32,407	33,847	34,959	36,388	3.8
Northern Territory	36,817	38,257	40,027	42,708	44,049	4.6
Australian Capital Territory	40,828	42,635	44,664	47,875	48,812	4.6
Australia	35,782	37,144	38,820	40,585	42,250	4.2

While these data show the overall growth rate of Wage and salary income across Australia, there was also some variation within states and territories. Regional variation in average Wage and salary income growth rates are influenced by a range of factors including the types of industries that are prevalent in an area, and the types of occupations people hold.

Table 2 shows the average annual growth rates of average Wage and salary incomes in capital city Statistical Divisions (SD) and in the balance of state/territory for each state and territory in the period 2001-02 to 2005-06.

Table 2. Average Annual Growth in Average Wage and Salary Income, 2001-02 to 2005-06

State/Territory	Capital City SD %	Balance of State/Territory %	State/Territory %
New South Wales	4.2	4.1	4.1
Victoria	3.9	3.8	3.9
Queensland	4.6	4.8	4.7
South Australia	3.9	3.8	3.9
Western Australia	5.3	5.3	5.3
Tasmania	3.9	3.8	3.8
Northern Territory	4.8	4.1	4.6
Australian Capital Territory	4.6	5.4	4.6

Table 2 shows that, with the exception of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, growth rates of average Wage and salary incomes were similar in the capital cities and the balance of the state or territory.

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TOP TEN AVERAGE WAGE AND SALARY INCOME REGIONS, 2005-06

The ten SLAs with the highest average Wage and salary income across Australia in 2005-06 were all located within capital city SDs. Of these seven were located in Sydney SD. In all of the SLAs, the proportion of Wage and salary earners in Manager and Administrator or Professional occupations was greater than 49%. The proportion of Wage and salary earners in these occupations for each state and territory was between 24% and 30%.

Mosman was the highest average Wage and salary income SLA in Australia, with an average annual Wage and salary income of \$100,177. This was around \$17,500 higher than the next highest SLA, Hunter's Hill.

Seven of the top ten average Wage and salary income SLAs in 2005-06 were in the top ten in each year from 2001-02 to 2005-06. Six of these, Mosman (A), Woollahra (A), Hunters Hill (A), Ku-ring-gai (A), North Sydney (A) and Lane Cove (A), were in the Sydney SD. The seventh was Bayside (C) - Brighton in Melbourne SD.

Table 3. Top 10 Average Wages and Salaries for Australian SLAs, 2005-06

Statistical Local Area(a)	State	Wage & Salary Earners (no.)	Total Wages & Salaries (\$m)	Average Wages & Salaries (\$)
Mosman (A)	NSW	11,005	1,102.4	100,177
Hunter's Hill (A)	NSW	4,716	390.0	82,699
Woollahra (A)	NSW	21,323	1,718.0	80,568
Ku-ring-gai (A)	NSW	39,438	2,864.9	72,643
North Sydney (A)	NSW	31,368	2,235.5	71,266
Peppermint Grove (S)	WA	601	42.5	70,680
Cottesloe (T)	WA	2,873	201.6	70,176
Bayside (C) - Brighton	Vic	13,330	927.9	69,613
Lane Cove (A)	NSW	13,855	932.3	67,293
Leichhardt (A)	NSW	25,098	1,672.6	66,645

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

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OCCUPATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF HIGH AVERAGE WAGE AND SALARY INCOME REGIONS, 2005-06

While the top ten SLAs across Australia were all in capital city SDs, in some states and territories the SLAs with the highest average incomes from Wages and salaries were outside of capital cities. For example, in 2005-06 the highest average Wage and salary income for Queensland was in Broadsound (S) (\$61,932), for SA it was in Roxby Downs (M) (\$57,918), and for Northern Territory, Groote Eylandt had the highest average Wage and salary income (\$61,295). All of these SLAs are remote from urban centres and according to 2006 Census data, they all had high proportions of Wage and salary earners who were Employees not owning their own business and also working in the Mining industry. In Broadsound (S) and Roxby Downs (M) 50% of Employees were employed in the Mining industry, while the proportion in Groote Eylandt was 36.2%.

Hobart (C) - Remainder in Greater Hobart SD (\$42,585) and Forrest in Canberra SD (\$63,851) had the highest average Wage and salary incomes for Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

This section identifies SLAs for each state and territory with the highest average incomes from Wages and salaries in capital city SDs and (except for the Australian Capital Territory) in the balance of each state or territory. The occupations of Wage and salary earners in these SLAs are also identified. The data show that in capital cities, occupations held in high Wage and salary income SLAs were mainly Professional, while in SLAs outside of the capital city SD there were greater proportions of earners in other occupations such as Tradespersons and related workers, and Production and transport workers.

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NEW SOUTH WALES

Table 4. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, New South Wales, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Managers and Administrators	Professionals	Associate Professionals	Tradespersons and Related Workers	Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Production and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labourers and Related Workers	Not Stated
Top 5 SLAs											
Sydney SD(a)											
Mosman (A)	100,177	23.3	28.2	8.5	2.3	4.5	13.8	1.0	4.5	1.5	12.3
Hunter's Hill (A)	82,699	20.9	28.3	7.3	3.8	4.4	15.6	1.5	5.9	2.5	9.9
Woollahra (A)	80,568	21.3	30.4	8.3	2.6	4.4	14.5	0.9	5.2	1.8	10.7
Ku-ring-gai (A)	72,643	19.0	31.9	6.5	2.9	4.1	14.4	1.0	7.1	1.7	11.3
North Sydney (A)	71,266	19.3	33.4	8.0	2.5	4.2	13.9	1.1	4.3	1.5	11.8
Sydney SD	47,911	10.8	20.9	7.2	8.3	3.3	17.7	5.8	8.4	7.5	10.2
Balance of NSW(a)											
Singleton (A)	50,801	5.9	12.1	6.1	16.4	1.9	13.4	18.1	9.4	9.5	7.3
Muswellbrook (A)	47,803	6.1	11.0	7.3	16.8	1.6	14.9	14.1	8.4	13.0	6.7
Queanbeyan (C)	46,984	7.0	15.6	7.8	9.3	2.1	18.3	5.5	8.9	6.5	18.9
Palerang (A) - Pt A	46,957	8.1	16.9	7.8	9.3	2.1	19.5	5.5	8.0	6.0	16.8
Cobar (A)	45,838	4.8	12.9	5.5	15.8	1.3	14.4	18.6	8.0	12.7	5.8
Balance of NSW	37,609	7.2	16.8	6.4	11.9	2.2	17.1	7.6	10.5	11.7	8.5
New South Wales	44,896	9.6	19.5	6.9	9.5	2.9	17.5	6.4	9.1	8.9	9.6

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

In Sydney SD, the five SLAs with the highest average income from Wages and salaries all had high proportions of

Managers and administrators, and Professionals. Together these occupations accounted for 49% or more of Wage and salary earners.

The SLAs in Balance of NSW with the highest average annual Wage and salary income were Singleton (A) and Muswellbrook (A), both located in the Hunter SD. These SLAs had a significantly higher proportion of Wage and salary earners employed in Tradesperson and related worker, and Intermediate production and transport worker occupations than did the Balance of NSW or the state as a whole. Additionally, Census data for 2006 show that Mining is the highest industry of employment in Singleton (A) and Muswellbrook (A). These regions are well known for their coal mining activity. Cobar (A) in North Western SD has a similar occupational and industry employment profile. Cobar (A) is known for copper, zinc, lead, silver and gold mining.

Queanbeyan (C) and nearby Palerang (A) - Pt A in South Eastern SD had higher proportions of persons in Professional and Intermediate clerical, sales and service worker occupations than did the other top five SLAs in Balance of NSW. While located in NSW, these areas are in commuting distance of Australia's Capital City, Canberra.

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VICTORIA

Table 5. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, Victoria, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Managers and Administrators	Professionals	Associate Professionals	Tradespersons and Related Workers	Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Production and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labourers and Related Workers	Not Stated
Top 5 SLAs											
Melbourne SD(a)											
Bayside (C) - Brighton	69,613	22.4	29.2	7.7	3.3	3.8	14.7	1.5	7.0	2.3	8.2
Port Phillip (C) - West	63,695	20.5	30.2	8.2	3.5	3.5	14.7	1.9	5.2	3.2	9.1
Boroondara (C) - Kew	61,553	16.8	34.7	7.5	3.0	2.9	14.7	1.4	7.1	2.6	9.4
Stonnington (C) - Malvern	60,864	17.5	31.3	7.6	3.3	3.6	15.3	1.5	7.9	3.0	9.1
Stonnington (C) - Prahran	59,643	17.1	31.0	8.7	3.1	3.4	16.4	1.4	6.6	2.6	9.8
Melbourne SD	43,555	11.0	20.7	6.8	9.1	2.9	17.2	6.2	9.2	8.5	8.6
Balance of Vic(a)											
Macedon Ranges (S) Bal	45,775	12.8	23.3	7.4	11.3	3.7	16.3	4.5	7.5	5.8	7.3
Newtown	45,042	11.2	27.6	8.0	8.2	2.6	15.5	3.7	8.9	6.0	8.3
Latrobe (C) - Traralgon	43,189	7.4	16.4	7.1	15.8	1.8	15.3	9.4	11.3	8.8	6.6
Macedon Ranges (S) - Romsey	42,738	11.1	16.7	7.3	14.4	3.1	18.5	7.0	8.0	7.6	6.4
Latrobe (C) Bal	41,849	6.5	16.7	6.4	17.5	1.5	14.8	8.9	10.3	10.2	7.1
Balance of Vic	35,692	8.2	17.0	6.3	12.2	1.9	15.7	7.5	10.4	13.6	7.2
Victoria	41,782	10.3	19.8	6.7	9.8	2.6	16.8	6.5	9.5	9.7	8.2

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

Like Sydney SD, the five SLAs with the highest average Wage and salary incomes in Melbourne SD had high proportions of earners in Manager and administrator and Professional occupations, ranging between 48% and 52%. In these SLAs the proportion of Wage and salary earners employed in Intermediate production and transport worker occupations was significantly lower than for the whole of Melbourne SD.

Macedon Ranges (S) Bal, in Loddon SD, and Newtown in Geelong City, part of Barwon SD, were the two SLAs with the highest average Wage and salary income outside of Melbourne SD in 2005-06. Both SLAs are located within commuting distance of the Melbourne central business district. Geelong is also home to a major car manufacturing plant and a university campus. The occupational profile of Wage and salary earners in these SLAs followed a similar pattern to SLAs in Melbourne SD, with proportions of persons in Professional occupations well above the proportion for the state.

Latrobe (C) - Traralgon and Latrobe (C) Bal are located in Gippsland SD. The proportions of Wage and salary earners in Tradesperson and related workers, and Intermediate production and transport worker occupations in these SLAs was greater than the proportion in the same occupations for Victoria. Major industries of employment in Latrobe (C) Traralgon and Latrobe (C) Bal, as indicated by the 2006 Census, were Manufacturing and Retail trade. The Electricity, gas, water and waste services industry was also prominent in Latrobe (C) Bal. A paper mill and several coal-fired power stations are located in Latrobe.

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QUEENSLAND

Table 6. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, Queensland, 2005-06

Top 5 SLAs	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Manag- ers and Admini- strators	Profess- ionals	Associ- ate Prof- ession- als	Trades- persons and Related Workers	Advanc- ed Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Product- ion and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labour- ers and Related Workers	Not Stated
Brisbane SD(a)											
Hamilton	58,987	13.7	23.9	8.7	6.2	4.0	18.4	3.9	6.9	5.0	9.2
Ascot	58,966	13.7	23.9	8.7	6.2	4.1	18.4	3.9	7.0	5.0	9.3
Pinjarra Hills	56,505	14.5	35.2	7.3	3.4	2.8	15.1	2.8	7.8	2.8	8.4
Fig Tree Pocket	56,482	14.6	35.2	7.4	4.0	3.0	15.0	1.3	7.7	3.0	8.7
Chapel Hill	56,469	14.5	35.2	7.4	4.0	2.9	15.0	1.5	7.7	3.0	8.7
Brisbane SD	41,359	8.9	18.6	7.1	9.6	2.4	19.2	6.3	9.5	9.3	9.2
Balance of Qld(a)											
Broadsound (S)	61,932	3.7	10.2	4.7	15.9	0.6	11.5	30.6	6.9	11.7	4.3
Duarina (S)	59,456	4.7	9.1	4.3	15.8	0.7	12.6	28.3	6.7	13.0	4.6
Peak Downs (S)	59,441	4.6	11.2	4.0	18.9	1.3	12.8	24.4	5.4	12.7	4.8
Belyando (S)	58,886	3.8	10.7	4.7	14.6	0.9	11.8	30.3	7.0	11.1	5.1
Nebo (S)	56,249	4.7	10.7	4.1	13.6	0.6	12.9	24.4	6.8	17.0	5.2
Balance of Qld	38,273	7.9	13.7	6.9	12.5	1.9	17.8	8.1	11.0	12.7	7.5
Queensland	39,629	8.4	16.1	7.0	11.1	2.1	18.5	7.2	10.3	11.1	8.3

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

The five SLAs in balance of Queensland with the highest average annual Wage and salary income were all located in Mackay and Fitzroy SDs. The major industry in Broadsound (S), Belyando (S) and Nebo (S) SLAs in Mackay SD, is coal mining. At the 2006 Census, between 37% and 50% of Wage and salary earners who were Employees not owning their own business were employed in the Mining industry. In Duaringa (S) and Peak Downs (S) SLAs in Fitzroy SD, the major industries include coal mining, and wheat, sorghum and beef farming. Again, 2006 Census data showed that these SLAs had high proportions (more than 35%) of Employees who did not own their own business and were employed in the Mining industry.

The most prominent type of occupation for Wage and salary earners in these SLAs was in Intermediate production and transport worker, accounting for more than 24% of Wage and salary earners. This compares with 7.2% of Wage and salary earners in Intermediate production and transport worker occupations for Queensland.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Table 7. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, South Australia, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Manag- ers and Admini- strators	Profess- ionals	Associ- ate Prof- ession- als	Trades- persons and Related Workers	Advanc- ed Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Product- ion and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labour- ers and Related Workers	Not Stated
Top 5 SLAs											
Adelaide SD(a)											
Burnside (C) - South- West	50,726	14.1	34.3	7.5	3.2	2.9	15.8	1.5	7.9	3.5	9.4
Unley (C) - East	50,222	13.7	33.0	8.3	3.6	2.8	16.5	1.6	7.5	3.8	9.1
Mitcham (C) - North-East	49,153	13.5	33.9	7.1	4.0	2.6	16.3	2.0	8.5	3.3	8.9
Burnside (C) - North-East	48,706	13.1	33.1	7.5	4.1	2.8	16.3	2.1	8.3	3.6	9.2
Walkerville (M)	48,529	13.5	31.8	7.7	3.5	2.7	16.5	2.3	8.3	4.6	8.9
Adelaide SD	39,388	8.8	19.0	6.9	9.1	2.2	18.7	5.8	10.0	10.0	9.4
Balance of SA(a)											
Roxby Downs (M)	57,918	5.0	15.2	9.7	17.1	1.2	11.3	16.1	6.4	12.0	6.1
Unincorp. Flinders Ranges	45,531	6.2	9.0	6.6	16.4	1.0	11.7	17.0	6.8	18.5	6.8
Whyalla (C)	42,901	7.6	14.2	5.4	14.1	1.3	12.7	12.7	10.9	13.5	7.6
Unincorp. Far North	41,991	5.4	10.5	8.7	12.2	0.8	15.3	13.3	9.4	18.6	5.9
Barossa (DC) - Tanunda	38,988	9.8	15.7	5.2	8.1	1.6	14.8	5.7	7.3	26.1	5.7
Balance of SA	34,826	7.6	13.6	6.0	11.6	1.4	15.8	8.5	9.6	19.0	6.9

South Australia	38,422	8.5	17.7	6.7	9.7	2.0	18.0	6.5	9.9	12.2	8.8
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(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

In 2005-06, the top five average Wage and salary earning SLAs in balance of South Australia included Roxby Downs (M) in Northern SD. Minerals are mined in the region, including copper, uranium, gold and silver. The greatest proportion of Wage and salary earners in Roxby Downs (M) were in Tradesperson and related worker, and Intermediate production and transport worker occupations. Seventeen percent of Wage and salary earners were Tradesperson and related workers, compared with 9.7% for South Australia. Sixteen percent were Intermediate production and transport workers, compared with 6.5% for the state. Whyalla (C), also in Northern SD, is best known for steel manufacturing and this is supported by 2006 Census data, with 24.8% of Employees not owning their own business working in the Manufacturing industry. Like Roxby Downs, Whyalla also had higher proportions of Tradespersons and related workers and Intermediate production and transport workers than did South Australia.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Table 8. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, Western Australia, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)										
		Managers and Administrators	Professionals	Associate Professionals	Tradespersons and Related Workers	Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Production and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labourers and Related Workers	Not Stated	
Top 5 SLAs												
Perth SD(a)												
Peppermint Grove (S)	70,680	15.3	37.3	7.6	3.8	2.8	13.1	1.5	6.5	3.0	9.1	
Cottesloe (T)	70,176	15.1	37.8	7.5	3.7	2.2	12.9	1.7	6.4	3.5	9.3	
Nedlands (C)	62,816	11.7	38.8	6.6	2.4	2.8	13.3	1.7	7.2	4.0	11.6	
Claremont (T)	62,162	12.4	34.3	7.3	3.1	3.3	13.8	1.6	8.1	3.0	13.2	
Subiaco (C)	59,804	11.0	41.2	7.4	2.9	2.7	13.2	1.6	6.3	3.5	10.3	
Perth SD	43,102	8.0	19.6	7.8	10.3	2.6	17.8	6.7	9.3	8.2	9.7	
Balance of WA(a)												
Ashburton (S)	63,753	3.9	11.5	6.8	18.2	0.9	11.8	22.9	6.6	11.3	5.9	
East Pilbara (S)	59,953	4.2	13.5	8.1	17.9	0.9	12.2	21.2	6.2	11.1	4.7	
Roebourne (S)	59,723	6.1	13.5	8.4	17.9	1.3	13.6	12.7	8.1	11.1	7.3	
Coolgardie (S)	56,373	3.1	7.0	7.1	20.6	1.0	10.2	27.1	5.8	13.9	4.3	
Port Hedland (T)	56,070	5.8	12.9	8.7	16.8	1.0	12.7	13.4	7.9	14.2	6.4	
Balance of WA	41,269	6.6	13.6	7.2	14.3	1.6	14.8	11.1	9.3	14.2	7.1	
Western Australia	42,804	7.7	18.2	7.6	11.2	2.3	17.1	7.7	9.3	9.6	9.1	

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

The economies of Ashburton (S) and East Pilbara (S) in Pilbara SD, and Coolgardie (S) in the Kalgoorlie region of South Eastern SD, are reliant upon the mining industry. More than 42.7% of Employees not owning their own business were employed in the Mining industry at the 2006 Census. Like other areas where mining is prominent, all of these SLAs had large proportions of Wage and salary earners in Tradesperson and related worker, and Intermediate production and transport worker occupations. Proportions of Wage and salary earners in these occupations in Roebourne (S) and Port Hedland (T), also in Pilbara SD, were not as high, but still greater than, the proportion for Western Australia. Roebourne and Port Hedland are major ports for exporting the iron ore, salt and natural gas mined and processed in the Pilbara region.

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TASMANIA

Table 9. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, Tasmania, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Managers and Administrators	Professionals	Associate Professionals	Tradespersons and Related Workers	Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Production and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labourers and Related Workers	Not Stated
		Top 5 SLAs									

Greater Hobart SD(a)

Hobart (C) - Remainder	42,585	9.0	31.5	7.9	5.1	1.9	16.7	1.9	8.1	4.2	13.7
Hobart (C) - Inner	42,238	9.0	34.3	7.6	4.3	2.4	16.2	2.4	8.1	2.4	13.3
Kingborough (M) - Pt A	38,448	8.1	24.0	8.3	8.6	2.0	17.8	3.5	9.6	5.6	12.5
Clarence (C)	37,991	8.3	17.9	8.3	10.0	2.1	19.9	4.3	10.5	7.2	11.7
Brighton (M)	34,857	6.5	8.0	5.4	15.6	1.3	19.1	9.6	10.7	14.3	9.6
<i>Greater Hobart SD</i>	<i>38,011</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>19.5</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>9.9</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>18.9</i>	<i>4.9</i>	<i>10.0</i>	<i>7.9</i>	<i>11.9</i>
Balance of Tas(a)											
West Coast (M)	41,670	5.5	9.6	6.6	16.8	0.9	13.2	18.2	7.7	16.5	5.1
Launceston (C) - Inner	37,775	5.9	20.3	8.5	8.5	0.0	18.6	5.9	11.9	10.2	10.2
George Town (M) - Pt B	37,764	9.4	17.4	4.7	11.5	1.4	14.1	9.6	7.8	14.8	9.2
West Tamar (M) - Pt A	37,385	7.9	17.8	6.5	10.3	1.8	18.0	7.1	10.0	10.7	9.9
Meander Valley (M) - Pt A	37,132	7.7	17.9	7.3	10.1	1.7	18.8	6.4	11.2	9.4	9.6
<i>Balance of Tas</i>	<i>34,427</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>14.0</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>16.9</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>10.0</i>	<i>15.3</i>	<i>9.0</i>
Tasmania	36,388	7.2	16.4	6.6	10.9	1.6	17.8	7.1	10.0	12.1	10.3

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

West Coast (M) in Mersey-Lyell SD is characterised by mining and tourism industries. The 2006 Census found that 27.2% of Employees not owning their own business in the SLA were employed in the Mining industry, and 16.5% were employed in the Accommodation and food services industry. The greatest number of Wage and salary earners in West Coast (M) SLA were in Tradesperson and related worker, Intermediate production and transport worker, and Labourer and related worker occupations.

Launceston (C) - Inner is part of Greater Launceston SSD in Northern SD. According to 2006 Census data, Retail trade, and Accommodation and food services were two of the largest industries of employment in Launceston (C) - Inner at 23% combined. Launceston is the second largest population centre in Tasmania after the capital, Hobart, and is the main service and retail centre for northern Tasmania. As such, the area had a greater proportion of people in Professional occupations than other SLAs outside of capital city SDs. Tourism is an important industry for Launceston, and close to a fifth of Wage and salary earners in Launceston (C) - Inner were in Intermediate clerical, sales and service worker occupations in 2005-06.

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NORTHERN TERRITORY

Table 10. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, Northern Territory, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Manag- ers and Admin- istrators	Profess- ionals	Associ- ate Prof- ession- als	Trades- persons and Related Workers	Advanc- ed Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Product- ion and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labour- ers and Related Workers	Not Stated
		Top 5 SLAs									
Darwin SD(a)											
Parap	49,862	11.0	18.1	7.6	6.8	1.9	16.1	3.8	6.8	4.1	23.6
Narrows	49,861	10.9	18.0	7.4	5.9	1.8	16.0	4.7	6.5	4.4	24.3
Ludmilla	49,792	10.8	18.1	7.6	6.7	2.5	16.1	3.2	6.8	4.2	24.0
Fannie Bay	49,776	10.8	18.1	7.6	6.7	1.9	16.1	3.6	6.8	4.2	24.1
The Gardens	49,759	10.9	18.0	7.4	7.2	2.0	16.0	3.2	6.9	4.2	24.2
Darwin SD	45,057	8.5	16.7	8.3	9.9	2.0	18.1	5.9	9.2	6.6	14.8
Balance of NT(a)											
Groote Eylandt	61,295	6.0	16.3	10.0	15.8	1.1	13.1	14.0	5.6	13.1	4.9
Nhulunbuy	57,229	7.0	17.8	6.0	14.0	1.3	15.9	11.3	7.0	13.7	6.0
Jabiru (T)	52,531	5.8	23.1	10.2	10.7	0.9	18.5	8.1	6.0	9.9	6.9
East Arnhem - Bal	49,349	6.8	19.1	6.6	11.9	1.3	16.5	10.0	6.8	14.9	6.1
South Alligator	48,741	4.5	23.0	10.0	9.0	2.5	18.5	6.5	7.5	11.5	7.0
Balance of NT	42,003	8.8	18.8	8.6	10.0	1.6	18.2	6.0	8.4	10.9	8.7
Northern Territory	44,049	8.6	17.4	8.4	9.9	1.9	18.1	5.9	8.9	8.0	12.8

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

The top three Wage and salary earning SLAs in the Northern Territory were all in remote regions outside of the capital city SD. These SLAs are home to different types of large mining operations. Groote Eylandt in East Arnhem SSD is the location of a large manganese mining operation. The most important industry for Nhulunbuy, also in East Arnhem SSD, is bauxite mining. The occupational profiles of both Groote Eylandt and Nhulunbuy differed from other SLAs with high Wage and salary income, in that there are relatively large proportions of Wage and salary earners spread across five occupational groups: Professionals, Tradespersons and related workers, Intermediate clerical, sales and service Workers, Intermediate production and transport Workers, and Labourer and related workers. Other high average income SLAs had concentrations of Wage and salary earners in one or two occupations only.

Jabiru in Alligator SSD is well known for uranium mining and is also a commercial and accommodation hub for tourists visiting Kakadu National Park. The proportion of persons in Professional occupations in Jabiru SLA, 23.1%, was substantially higher than in other SLAs of the Northern Territory, including those in Darwin. Clerical sales and service workers were also a significant part of the occupational profile of Jabiru.

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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Table 11. Wage and salary earners, by occupation, Australian Capital Territory, 2005-06

	Average Wage & Salary Income (\$)	Occupation (%)									
		Manag-ers and Admini-strators	Profess-ionals	Associ-ate Prof-ession-als	Trades-persons and Related Workers	Advanc-ed Clerical and Service Workers	Int. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Int. Product-ion and Transport Workers	Elem. Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	Labour-ers and Related Workers	Not Stated
		Top 5 SLAs									
Canberra SD(a)											
Forrest	63,851	9.7	28.9	8.1	2.2	2.9	16.5	0.9	5.4	1.6	23.9
Red Hill	63,812	9.6	28.8	8.0	2.6	2.5	16.4	0.8	5.4	2.2	23.8
Griffith	63,394	9.4	28.4	7.8	2.7	2.4	16.1	0.9	5.4	2.2	24.8
Barton	60,732	8.4	27.0	6.4	3.1	1.4	14.0	1.0	4.5	1.4	32.7
Yarralumla	60,688	8.4	26.6	6.3	2.3	1.8	14.0	1.4	4.5	2.1	32.5
Canberra SD	48,814	6.2	22.9	7.6	5.5	1.9	17.6	2.4	8.3	3.6	23.9
Balance of ACT	46,029	3.9	17.8	7.8	11.6	3.9	18.6	4.7	9.3	3.9	18.6
Australian Capital Territory	48,812	6.2	22.9	7.6	5.5	1.9	17.6	2.4	8.3	3.6	23.9

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

The Australian Capital Territory had the highest average Wage and salary income of all the states and territories. Professionals and Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers constituted 40% or more of all Wage and salary earners in the top five Wage and salary earning SLAs in Canberra SD. Consequently, proportions of Wage and salary earners in other types of occupations were very low, particularly Tradesperson and related workers (3% or less), Intermediate production and transport workers (less than 1.5%) and Labourers and related workers (less than 2.5%).

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About this Release

These data cubes contain various cross-tabulations of the characteristics of wage and salary earners such as age, sex, occupation, wage and salary income and total income for the year 2005-06. They are an addition to the data cubes previously published under the catalogue number 5673.0.55.001. Most of the data in these tables are presented for each Statistical Local Area (SLA) in Australia. These data have been compiled from the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Individual Income Tax Return Database and are part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) program to increase the range of regional statistics available, particularly through the use of administrative information from other government agencies.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 These data are estimates relating to persons whose principal (or main) source of income in 2005-06 was from wages and salaries. The estimates include the number of persons, their income from wages and salaries, their total income from all sources, and characteristics such as age, sex, and occupation. This is the final release of this series

by the main source of income. In future data will be provided for all persons receiving any income from this source.

2 These data have been compiled from the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Individual Income Tax Return Database and are part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) program to increase the range of regional statistics available, particularly through the use of administrative information collected by other government agencies. The ABS wishes to acknowledge the support provided by the ATO in compiling these statistics.

3 Data are available for various levels of the the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), including Statistical Local Areas (SLA) and Local Government Areas (LGA).

4 Data for the years from 1995-96 to 2004-05 are available from the Past & Future Issues tab of this release, and in Regional Wage and Salary Earner releases contained in the Related Products tab.

CONFIDENTIALITY

5 All individual income tax statistics provided to the ABS by the ATO have been in aggregated form only, at the SLA level. Information about individual taxpayers has not been released to the ABS.

6 Prior to being provided to the ABS, the statistics have also been subjected to a confidentiality process that randomly adjusts table cells with small values. This includes altering some small cells to zero. Caution should therefore be exercised in deducing that there are no people in an area with certain characteristics and, in general, no reliance should be placed on tale cells with small values. The confidentiality process prevents the risk of inadvertently releasing any information that may identify an individual while preserving the overall information value of the statistics.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

7 The scope of these data relate to persons whose principal (or main) source of income in 2005-06 was wages and salaries.

8 Wage and salary earners have been defined as:

persons aged 15 years and over who have submitted an individual income tax return and for whom wage and salary income was the principal (or main) source of income for the financial year.

9 Wage and salary income, as reported on the income tax return, includes gross income as shown on the 'PAYG payment summary - individual non-business' as well as allowances, commissions, bonuses, tips, gratuities, consultation fees, honoraria and other payments for services. Allowances and other earnings may include car, travel or transport allowances, allowances for tools, clothing or laundry and dirt, risk, meal or entertainment allowances. (Note: PAYG (Pay as You Go) payment summaries were previously known as Group Certificates).

10 It should be noted that this definition does not take account of whether wage and salary earners work on a full-time or part-time basis. Consequently, differences in the extent of part-time work may account for some differences in the number of wage and salary earners and average wage and salary incomes across regions. Similarly, average wage and salary incomes may be affected by overtime earnings and multiple job holdings.

DEFINING MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME

11 Wage and salary income is determined as the principal source of income when the income derived from this source (as defined in paragraph 8 above) is greater than the income derived from each of the following other income sources:

- Commonwealth of Australia government pensions, allowances and other payments;
- superannuation and annuities;
- unincorporated business income;
- investments (i.e. aggregate of gross interest, dividends, net rent and distributions from trusts - non-primary production); and
- other income (e.g. income from foreign pensions or from foreign investments).

12 For example: A person reports the following income in their Individual Income Tax Return;

- \$11,000 investment income
- \$10,000 salary
- \$3,000 government allowance

- \$2,000 transport allowance, and
- \$1,000 honorarium.

13 Based on the above definitions, these would be grouped as follows to establish the main source of income:

- \$13,000 wage and salary income (aggregate of \$10,000 salary, \$2,000 transport allowance and \$1,000 honorarium)
- \$11,000 investment income, and
- \$3,000 government allowance.

14 As the aggregate of income for the categories that make up wages and salary income (\$13,000) is greater than the income for each of the other groups of income separately (\$11,000 investment and \$3,000 government allowance) the person is classified as having wage and salary income as their main source of income.

STATISTICAL GEOGRAPHY

15 The Australian Standard Geographic Classification (ASGC) is used by the ABS for the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics. It is an essential reference for understanding and interpreting the geographic context of statistics published, not only by the ABS but also by other organisations, and its use enables comparability across datasets.

16 ATO data based on postcodes has been converted to data for Local Government Areas (LGA) and Statistical Local Areas (SLA) as defined by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). Boundaries of these regions can change over time and the ABS revises and releases the ASGC annually.

17 Data in this publication is presented on boundaries in Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 2006 (cat. no. 1216.0).

Geographic concordances

18 The ABS uses geographic concordances to enable the conversion of data from one type of geographic region to another. These geographic concordances are generally used to convert data for 'non-standard areas' to data for standard areas used by the ABS. Geographic concordances (or conversions) are expressed as conversion factors based on population.

19 The geographic identifier on the ATO database is the postcode of the individuals' current home address at the time of completing the tax return. Consequently, postcode to SLA conversion factors have been used by the ATO to concord aggregated postcode data to estimates for Statistical Local Areas. The concordances are based on the Estimated Resident Population for each particular year.

20 The concordance process:

- enables the data to be more easily compared with standard ABS output;
- enables the data to be output for other standard ABS geographic areas such as Statistical Divisions (SD), Statistical Subdivisions (SSD) and Local Government Areas; and
- provides flexibility so that data can be provided for the different regions of interest being studied by users of regional data (which are usually groupings of SLAs and/or LGAs).

21 When analysing concorded data the following limitations of this methodology need to be taken into account:

- in applying the concordances it is assumed that the particular characteristics of any data item are uniformly distributed across a postcode area. Therefore, concorded data may not truly reflect the distribution of the characteristics of the population. In some cases, where the same postcode is split across two or more SLAs and there are no other contributing postcodes, distinct numerical estimates will be derived but rates or averages will be identical for each SLA (as these will be equivalent to the original rate or average of the contributing postcode);
- the conversion factors are based on total population only but have been applied across all ATO data items, i.e. the number of wage and salary earners, wage and salary income, total income and sex, age and occupation groups;
- some official postcodes (such as PO boxes, etc.) do not correspond to residential areas but may still have been reported under the current home address field on the income tax return. Data for these and other 'invalid' postcodes, such as those due to incorrect reporting or processing errors, have been included in an 'unknown' category for each state and territory and for Australia where the state or territory was not known; and
- concorded figures have been rounded so discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items

and totals.

22 While care was taken in producing the concordances the ABS will not guarantee the accuracy of concorded data.

Geographic regions

23 The statistics in this electronic release and accompanying data cubes are presented according to the Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 2006. Under this classification, statistical areas are defined as follows:

- **Local Government Areas (LGAs):** These areas are the spatial units which represent the geographical areas of incorporated local government councils and incorporated Community Government Councils (CGCs) where the CGC is of sufficient size and statistical significance. The various types of LGAs are cities (C), NSW local government areas (A), boroughs (B), rural cities (RC), towns (T), shires (S), district councils (DC) and municipalities (M).
- **Statistical Local Areas (SLAs):** These geographical areas are in most cases identical with, or have been formed from a division of, whole LGAs. In other cases, they represent unincorporated areas. In aggregate, SLAs cover the whole of a state or territory without gaps or overlaps. In some cases legal LGAs overlap Statistical Subdivision boundaries and therefore comprise two or three SLAs.
- **Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs):** These are of intermediate size, between SLAs and SDs. In aggregate, they cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They are defined as socially and economically homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable links between the inhabitants. In the non-urban areas an SSD is characterised by identifiable links between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities.
- **Statistical Divisions (SDs):** These consist of one or more SSDs. The divisions are designed to be relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities.

DATA CONSIDERATIONS

24 There are several data considerations that users should be aware of when analysing the data. Overall, these are not viewed as being so severe that they would lead to the production of misleading information. Readers are cautioned to be aware of these considerations and take them into account when analysing the results.

Processing of tax returns

25 The data presented in this publication were compiled before the processing of all income tax returns for any given year may have been completed. Data provided to the ABS by the ATO are from returns processed up to 31 October, 16 months after the end of the financial year. Any returns lodged after this date are not included. Therefore, for 2005-06, returns processed after 31 October 2007 are not included. In general, caution should be exercised when making comparisons over time with data released in previous issues of this publication. The statistics for the years prior to 2001-02 were compiled from individual income tax returns processed up to 18 months after the end of each financial year, while statistics from 2001-02 onwards were compiled from returns processed up to 16 months after the end of each financial year.

26 Annual revised data is published by the ATO in Taxation Statistics, Personal Tax, Table 7 for some selected income items, including 'Salary or wages'. While this relates to all persons with income from 'Salary or wages', it gives an indication of the likely change in total and average income over time as more tax returns are lodged. For example, an additional 2.8% of persons with 'Salary or wages' income lodged their income tax returns in the twelve months after the initial processing of returns for 2005-06 (ie after October 31, 2007 and up to 31 October 2008), with a further 3.1% in 'Salary or wages' income reported. The average 'Salary or wages' in 2005-06 was \$39,460 as at 31 October 2007, and \$39,561 as at 31 October 2008, indicating that those people who lodged their 2005-06 tax returns after the initial 16 months processing period had, on average, higher incomes from 'Salary or wages' than the people who had lodged their returns within the initial 16 month processing period.

Changes in taxation policy

27 The ATO provides information annually in Taxation Statistics about changes that may affect taxation statistics. Changes relating to personal income tax are in Chapter 2 of Taxation Statistics.

28 For the income year 2005-06, the following changes were noted in Taxation Statistics:

- personal income tax cuts

- the introduction of new measures such as the 30% child care tax rebate, the 25% entrepreneurs' tax offset, transitional incentives to contribute to superannuation, and
- transition to retirement rule - people aged over 55 can now access superannuation benefits without having to retire or leave their job.

AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF GROWTH

29 The average annual growth rate is calculated as a percentage using the formula below, where W_0 is the average Wages and salaries at the start of the period, W_n is the average Wages and salaries at the end of the period, and n is the length of the period (in years) between W_0 and W_n .

$$[(W_n/W_0)^{1/n} - 1] \times 100$$

ROUNDING

30 Due to the application of both the postcode to SLA concordance and the randomisation process, totals for each variable and geographic area may differ from table to table. Concorded figures have been rounded, while column and row totals have been derived after the random adjustment process has been applied. The random adjustments have been made only to very small cells. However, the more detailed a table is, the greater the likelihood of small cells being present. This is particularly the case for SLAs with small wage and salary populations. The randomisation of small cells has only been applied at the SLA level and for most purposes the value of the data has not been impaired. Differences in totals between tables are not significant and can be ignored.

31 Furthermore, where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals. Proportions and rates have been calculated on rounded figures and may differ slightly if calculated on the unrounded numbers.

FURTHER INFORMATION

32 For further information about these statistics, contact the National Information Service on ph: 1300 135 070.